



Batheaston Youth Club AGM will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 23rd September, and a representative of the Council would be very welcome.

B&NES have carried out **tree surgery** resulting from the previous survey, and a **tree survey**, which will result in a fresh round of works in the autumn and spring.

The works to **repair the Secret Garden Wall** started on 24th August, and will finish soon. I have also asked them to remove some paint splashed on the wall nearby.

As reported elsewhere, the **Closure of Northend at St John's Church** required us to drop the posts at the Catherine Way / Steway Lane junction to provide an alternative route. Thanks to Cllrs Catherine McCarthy and Sue Peachey, and a local resident, this was successfully managed, albeit with concerns about parking and access. It has established our role in managing these gates.

As reported elsewhere, B&NES have provided their final proposals for **changes to parking restrictions** in the Parish, which reflect our discussions over the past year or so. There is one change that has been challenged, and which I am investigating with Councillors and Ward Cllr Sarah Warren. query

The heatwaves over the summer resulted in some hastily arranged Cool Spaces by the Church and Village Hall. It has caused me to seek to reinvigorate the **Batheaston Emergency Response Team**.

B&NES Local Plan

B&NES have published the draft local plan go to cabinet next week, setting out plans for development of housing and other developments for the next 20 years. If approved it will then be subject to review and approval by Central Government, and can be expected to take effect in 2027.

They are encouraging parish and town councils to attend meetings to review the plan which contains plans for housing development in the area. The relevant meetings for us are: **22nd September, the Bathavon Area Forum, online and 21st October the B&NES Parish Liaison meeting, in Keynesham.**

In the paragraphs relating specifically to Batheaston are the following:

"5.25 Batheaston is one of the larger villages within the Bath Environs, and benefits from strong connections to Bath, a broad range of local services and facilities, and access to public transport along the A4 corridor. The village performs an important service role for the surrounding area, and forms part of the wider eastern Bath urban fringe. Its attractive landscape setting within the Cotswold National Landscape, and its relationship with the setting of the Bath World Heritage Site, contribute strongly to its character and identity."

"5.27 The village is constrained by the Green Belt, and landscape and heritage considerations, all of which require a careful approach to future growth. Whilst no site allocation is proposed within Batheaston itself, carefully planned growth in the surrounding area provides opportunities to support housing delivery, including affordable housing, in sustainable locations that are physically related to the village and its services and facilities, whilst respecting the character, setting and environmental qualities that make Batheaston distinctive." (Page 445)

The principal developments in the surrounding area referred to here are the development of about 20 homes on the Bathford Nurseries site and a small area further along Box Road for commercial development. (See paragraphs 5.31-5.39, and policies 5.1 and 5.2). Both are in Bathford PC, but are better connected to Batheaston; we made comments highlighting the impact on Batheaston facilities in our submission in November 2025.

Energy at Home event

This is set to take place at the New Village Hall on the afternoon of Saturday 7th November. This will feature stands and presentations from:

- Retrofit West
- Lendology
- BWCE Home Energy
- BWCE Heat Pumps project
- The Cheese Project CIC
- Go Green Widcombe.

There will also be a draught-proofing workshop in the rhymes Pavilion on the Tuesday evening of the week before (4th). I am meeting the project leads to finalise details including publicity. I have indicated that the Council might wish to have a stand, or a presence of some sort, to advertise its role, and seek new recruits.

Both events are provided by B&NES and BWCE, with the objective being to assist residents in reducing energy use and bills.

Providing defibrillators in the Parish

In March, Council requested that I “specify the requirements for defibrillators and other life-saving equipment in the village, with a view to bringing a costed project proposal to a future meeting of the Council”. The existing defibrillators available at all times are at:

- The New Village Hall
- The Medical Centre (see below)

And available during the daytime:

- At the school
- In the Dental Surgery (and only accessible when it is open)

The request that gave rise to the project was for a defibrillator in Upper Northend. I have also identified a need for:

- at least one defibrillator on the Elmhurst Estate, perhaps near the bus stop outside No 74 Catherine Way.
- on Bannerdown Road, perhaps at the junction with Eden Park Drive
- possibly on the London Road West (around .

I would welcome comments on these suggestions. In the meantime I will continue to investigate precise locations and suitable devices, with the hope of bringing a proposal to Council in the next month or two.

The Defibrillator at the Medical Centre. This was provided by B&NES through a one off ward councillor grant in 2016, with funding to cover maintenance for several years. This has now been exhausted and we have been asked to take it on. I have discussed this with the Surgery Manager, and agreed a proposal that she will continue to carry out weekly checks to ensure that it is functioning correctly, and the Parish Council will fund any maintenance requirements. This should be of the order of £100-£200 per year.

Council is asked to approve this proposal

Richard Maccabee

Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

4th September 2026